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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Application No.: to be assigned  
Applicant(s): Van Der Steen  
Filed: herewith  
Art Unit:  
Examiner:  
Title: Optical Connector System

Attorney Docket No.: 003D.0108.U1(US)

Customer No.: 29,683

Commissioner For Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Information Disclosure Statement

(37 C.F.R. §1.97(b))

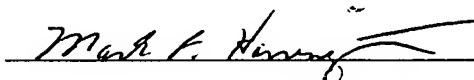
Sir:

The following information is being disclosed to the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office as information that may be material to the examination of the above-identified patent application.

Applicant's Attorney is aware of the documents listed on the enclosed Form PTO-1449. Copies of the non-US documents are enclosed with the Form PTO-1449 for the Examiner's use. The documents listed were cited in a Netherlands Search Report and an International Search Report issued in the parent International application. A copy of each Report is attached.

The filing of this Statement is not to be construed as a representation that a search has been made regarding the claimed invention (37 C.F.R. §1.97(g)) or that no other possible material information exists. In addition, the filing of this Statement is not to be construed to be an admission that the information cited in the Statement is, or is considered to be, material to Patentability (37 C.F.R. §1.97(h)).

Respectfully submitted,

  
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Mark F. Harrington (Reg. No. 31,686)

7/26/06  
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Date

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| <b>INFORMATION DISCLOSURE<br/>CITATION FORM FOR<br/>PATENT APPLICATION<br/>(FORM PTO-1449)<br/>(Substitute)</b> | Docket No.: 003D.0108.U1(US) <span style="float: right;">Serial No.: to be assigned</span><br><br>Applicant(s): Van Der Steen<br><br>Filing Date: herewith <span style="float: right;">Group:</span> |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|

**U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS**

| Examiner Initials | Document Number<br>(Number-Kind Code) | Publication Date<br>(MM-DD-YYYY) | Name of Patentee or Applicant | Class | Sub-class |
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**FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS**

| Examiner Initials | Document Number<br>(Country Code-Number-Kind Code) | Publication Date<br>(MM-DD-YYYY) | Name Of Patentee of Applicant    | Translation?<br>Yes/No/n/a |
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|                   | EP 0 485 196 A2                                    | 05-13-1992                       | BICC Public Limited Co.          |                            |
|                   | EP 1 180 701 A1                                    | 02-20-2002                       | FCI - Framatome Connectors Intl. |                            |
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|                   | - -                                                |                                  |                                  |                            |
|                   | - -                                                |                                  |                                  |                            |

**OTHER DOCUMENTS (Author (Capitalize), Title, Date, Pages, Etc., if known)**

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Examiner's Signature:

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Initial if reference was considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP. Mark through citation if not considered.  
Include a copy of this citation form with your next correspondence to the Applicant(s).